



Montana Crime Reporting Newsletter

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Montana Police Records and NIBRS Training Conference

We would like to thank everyone who attended and presented at the Montana Police Records and NIBRS Training in Missoula, MT. For those of you who could not attend, your presence was missed.

The MBCC believes some special recognition should go to the Missoula Police Department for their help in planning and executing the conference. A big thanks goes out to you!

As a result of the NIBRS portion of the training, MBCC has concluded that a more comprehensive NIBRS training will be provided in the future. Tentatively, MBCC plans to invite Darrin Moor back in the spring of 2009 for a separate two day class to be held in two locations throughout the state. Look for more information from us in the near future.

The Police Records Association will hold their first meeting the afternoon of Sept. 4. Contact Kathy Ruppert if you're interested in attending.

Property Codes

The FBI's NIBRS oversight committee has recently discussed adding additional property codes (i.e. cell phones) to the NIBRS list of accepted property descriptions.

If this happens, state programs will have a sufficient amount of time to implement the changes. We will keep you posted.

Quality Assurance

Shoplifting, 0631 (23C) should typically have a 'B' = Business as the victim. The MBCC is receiving a large number of Shoplifting offenses with an 'I' = Individual victim. Please report the business, and not the owner, or employee as the victim.

MTIBR Standards

The Montana Incident-Based Reporting Standards Handbook is available at:

mbcc.mt.gov/Data/CrimeDataSubmissions/CrDataSub.asp.

It is based on the FBI standards and provides the **guidelines** of reporting accurate crime data.

Bias Motivation

Bias Motivation is to be used to indicate whether an offense was motivated by bias. Bias is to be reported only if an investigation reveals sufficient objective facts that conclude the offender's actions were motivated by a bias against race, religion, disability, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

During the course of investigation it may not be clear the incident was motivated by bias. Sometimes the facts can be ambiguous and unclear. In this case, the bias motivation code can be sent as a **99 = Unknown**.

However, during the course of investigation, facts about the incident may surface clearly indicating the offender's bias. Please be sure to resubmit the incident with the updated bias motivation code.

Table 1

Montana

January 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008

Bias Motivation

	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Total
99 = Unknown	395	412	807

Table 1 shows that in the first half of 2008 statewide, over 800 incidents with the bias code '99' = Unknown were submitted to MBCC.

A Hate Crime publication will be published on our website at: www.mbcc.mt.gov.

Two Year Trends

The MBCC Technical Services Unit will be checking your data for any anomalies over the next few weeks. We will be looking at each agencies data and comparing it with what was submitted over the same time period last year. For example, an agency may have submitted 100 aggravated assaults in the first half of 2007, but only submitted 10 in the first of half of 2008. In this example, we would question the validity of those numbers, and contact the agency to verify them.

Law Enforcement Personnel

The annual Law Enforcement Personnel survey publication is being finalized and will be published at the MBCC website in the coming weeks. Please take a moment to look at the publication, as it contains a number of useful pieces of information that could be beneficial to your agency.

Crime Prevention Conference

The MBCC is hosting the 2nd Annual Montana Crime Prevention Conference to be held in Helena, MT, September 9-11, 2008. The conference agenda is filled with great information. Every topic from Prison Gangs to preventing Youth Suicide will be covered.

For more information, and how to register please visit the MBCC's website at:

www.mbcc.mt.gov.

You may also call us at 444-3604 for more details.

Your data is important to the MBCC and the state of Montana. It is used to guide policy development at a state and local level. Additionally, the Federal Department of Justice places an emphasis on crime reporting as a criteria for distributing federal funds.

Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted (LEOKA)

During our NIBRS Audit, we realized the need to clarify how to enter LEOKA information.

LEOKA data includes a Law Enforcement Officer as the Victim plus the Type of Activity and Assignment Type.

1. Usually we receive the Offense of 0481 (13A), Assault on a peace or judicial officer when an Officer is assaulted or threatened of an assault.
2. Frequently we receive the Offense of 0821 (13B), Resisting arrest with LEOKA information.
3. Under the NIBRS Addendum for Submitting LEOKA Data (www.fbi.gov/ucr/nibrs/manuals/nibrs_leoka.pdf) it states that both of these Offenses, 0481 (13A) and 0821 (13B) can be reported.
4. Although, we have been directed by the FBI to include LEOKA information only when there is **INTENT** to harm the Officer.
5. If an Offender's motivation is to get away from the Officer & a little shuffle occurs, we do NOT want the LEOKA information.
6. In this case, enter that Officer as an 'I' = Individual victim instead of a 'L' = Law Enforcement Officer victim.

Table 2

Montana

January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007

Offenses against a Law Enforcement Officer

MT Offense Code	Total
0412 (13A)	1
0414 (13A)	1
0415 (13A)	4
0421 (13A)	4
0481 (13A)	23
0821 (13B)	87
0825 (13B)	10
0827 (13B)	1
0828 (13B)	1
0835 (13B)	3
Total	135

Table 2 shows offenses committed against a law enforcement officer during calendar year 2007 in Montana. Most offenses where the victim type = 'L' was 0821 (13B), Resisting arrest. The second most common offense was 0481 (13A), Assault on a peace or judicial officer. According to the guidelines above, we would expect to see few 0821 (13B) offense.